

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Withdrawn): A method for enabling a user of a portable electronic device to communicate with a user of an office-based terminal by voice, comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving a text email message;
- (b) parsing the name of an intended recipient;
- (c) determining if the intended recipient is an authorized user;
- (d) if the intended recipient is authorized, assigning a message-specific indicia to the message;
- (e) if the intended recipient is authorized, appending a reply notice with the message-specific indicia to the message;
- (f) if the reply notice is appended, saving the email message with the reply notice appended thereto; and
- (g) if the intended recipient is authorized, transmitting the email message with the reply notice to the intended recipient.

Claim 2 (Withdrawn): The method for enabling a user of a portable electronic device to communicate with a user of an office-based terminal by voice according to claim 1, further comprising the step of rejecting the email message if the intended recipient is not authorized.

Claim 3 (Withdrawn): A method for enabling a user of a portable electronic device to communicate with a user of an office-based terminal by voice, comprising the steps of:

- (a) extracting message header information from a received text email message;
- (b) dividing the message header information into components thereof;
- (c) analyzing the components of the message header;

- (d) assigning a message-specific indicia to the message;
- (e) appending a reply notice comprising an instruction to the user of the portable electronic device that in order to reply to the text email by phone the user of the portable electronic device must initiate a telephone call to a selected phone number and enter the assigned message-specific indicia;
- (f) saving the email message with the reply notice appended thereto; and
- (g) transmitting the email message with the reply notice to the user of the portable electronic device.

Claim 4 (Withdrawn): The method for enabling a user of a portable electronic device to communicate with a user of an office-based terminal by voice according to claim 3, further comprising the step of determining whether the name and email address of the sender of the email message are recorded in an address list, and, if not, entering the name and address thereof.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn): The method for enabling a user of a portable electronic device to communicate with a user of an office-based terminal by voice according to claim 4, further comprising the step of determining whether the name and email address of the sender of the email message are recorded in an address list, and, if not, entering the name and address thereof.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A method for enabling ~~a user of~~ a portable electronic device to communicate with ~~a user of an office-based~~ an enterprise terminal ~~by voice~~, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

[[a)] receiving a call in an email server of the enterprise from the ~~user of the~~ portable electronic device;

[[b)] determining if the ~~user of the~~ portable electronic device is registered as a ~~user of the~~ in the email server of the enterprise;

[[c)] obtaining a pre-assigned message-~~identifying indicium~~ identifier from the ~~user of the~~ portable electronic device, the message-~~identifying indicium~~ identifier ~~having been~~ assigned to an e-mail message received by the ~~user of the~~ portable electronic device ~~prior to receipt of the e-mail message by that user~~ the identifier corresponding to an author of the received email;

[[d)] authenticating the message-~~identifying indicium~~ identifier at the email server of the enterprise;

[[e)] requesting ~~the user of the portable electronic device to record a~~ recording of a voice message from the user of the portable electronic device as a reply to the email message;

[[f)] recording the voice message at the email server; and

[[g)] transmitting the voice message to the ~~user of the office-based enterprise~~ terminal.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The method for enabling a ~~user of a~~ portable electronic device to communicate with a ~~user of an office-based~~ an enterprise terminal ~~by voice~~ according to claim 6, further comprising:

~~the step of~~ converting the recorded voice message into a format adapted for attachment to an electronic message.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method for enabling a ~~user of a~~ portable electronic device to communicate with ~~a user of an office-based~~ an enterprise terminal by ~~voice~~ according to claim 6, further comprising:

~~the step of~~ playing an error message and terminating ~~the program~~ communication with the e-mail server if the ~~user of the portable electronic device~~ is not registered as ~~a user of in~~ the email server.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The method for enabling a ~~user of a~~ portable electronic device to communicate with ~~a user of an office-based~~ an enterprise terminal by voice according to claim 6, further comprising:

~~the step of~~ determining if the recorded message is acceptable; and ~~it not,~~  
recording the message again if the previously recorded message is not acceptable.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A method for enabling a ~~user of a~~ portable electronic device to communicate with ~~a user of an office-based~~ an enterprise terminal by ~~voice~~, comprising the steps of:

[[a)] receiving a call in an email server of the enterprise from the ~~user of the~~ portable electronic device;

[[b)] determining if the ~~user of the~~ portable electronic device is registered as ~~a user of in~~ the email server;

[[c)] obtaining a pre-assigned message-~~identifying indicium~~ identifier from the ~~user of the~~ portable electronic device, the message-~~identifying indicium~~ identifier ~~having been~~ assigned to an email message received by the ~~user of the~~ portable electronic device ~~prior to a transmission receipt of the email message thereto by that user~~ the identifier corresponding to an author of the received email;

[[[d]]] authenticating the message-~~identifying indicium~~ identifier at the email server of the enterprise;

[[[e]]] requesting ~~the user of the portable electronic device to record a~~ recording of a voice message from the user of the portable electronic device as a reply to the email message;

[[[f]]] recording the voice message;

[[[g]]] converting the recorded voice message into MP-3 format; and

[[[h]]] transmitting the converted voice message to the user of the office-based terminal.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The method for enabling ~~a user of a portable electronic device to communicate with a user of an office-based terminal by voice~~ according to claim 6, further comprising:

identifying ~~[[the]]~~ a user of the portable electronic device by using a Caller ID service.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The method for enabling ~~a user of a portable electronic device to communicate with a user of an office-based~~ an enterprise terminal ~~by voice~~ according to claim 6, further comprising[[,]]:

~~if a Caller ID service is not operating,~~ prompting ~~[[the]],~~ if a Caller ID service is not operating, a user of the portable electronic device to enter a personal identification number ("PIN")[[,]]; and

authenticating the PIN to determine whether ~~[[it]]~~ the PIN is valid.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The method for enabling ~~a user of a portable electronic device to communicate with a user of an office-based~~ an enterprise terminal ~~by~~

~~voice~~ according to claim 6, wherein the pre-assigned message-~~identifying indicium~~ identifier allows transmission of the voice message ~~to be transmitted efficiently~~ to the ~~office-based~~ enterprise terminal.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The method for enabling ~~a user of a~~ portable electronic device to communicate with ~~a user of an office-based~~ an enterprise terminal by ~~voice~~ according to claim 10, further comprising identifying ~~[[the]]~~ a user of the ~~portable~~ electronic device by using a Caller ID service.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The method for enabling a ~~user of a~~ portable electronic device to communicate with ~~a user of an office-based~~ an enterprise terminal by ~~voice~~ according to claim 10, further comprising ~~[[,]]~~:

~~if a Caller ID service is not operating,~~ prompting ~~[[the]],~~ if a Caller ID service is not operating, a user of the portable electronic device to enter a PIN~~[[,]]~~; and authenticating the PIN to determine whether ~~[[it]]~~ the PIN is valid.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The method for enabling a ~~user of a~~ portable electronic device to communicate with ~~a user of an office-based~~ an enterprise terminal by ~~voice~~ according to claim 10, wherein the pre-assigned message-~~identifying indicium~~ identifier allows ~~[[the]]~~ transmission of the voice message ~~to be transmitted efficiently~~ to the ~~office-based~~ terminal.